THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) During the year 2004-05, Sino-India trade volume was US$11.33 billion.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A number of projects aimed at improving connectivity between India and Myanmar are under consideration. These include roads & highways, shipping links and rail links.

Bridging economic relations between ASEAN and SAARC

881. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the observation made by the former Philippines President at the Seminar held on "Vision of an Integrated Asia in the 21st Century" organized recently by the FICCI at New Delhi to the effect that ASEAN and SAARC countries were the key building blocks for the integration of the entire ASEAN-Pacific Region;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to moot any proposal to bridge the economic relations between ASEAN and SAARC countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if answered to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The observation made by the former President of Philippines at the Seminar held on "Vision of an Integrated Asia in the 21st Century" organized recently by the FICCI at New Delhi is in the knowledge of the Government.

(b) to (c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the government presently.

(d) India is currently engaged with ASEAN in negotiating a Comprehensvie Economic Agreement.